

Attorney Docket No.: 10508.204-US

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: De Maria et al. Confirmation No: 9304

Serial No.: 10/574,554 Group Art Unit: 1656

Filed: April 3, 2006 Examiner: W. Moore

For: Protease Variants

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 2, 2009, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the specification** begin on page 2 of this document.

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this document.

**Remarks and arguments** begin on page 10 of this document.